

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5003

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL CAPETOWN

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 2705

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, SF, WA

SUBJ: NAMIBIA: CONTACT GROUP MEETING OF AUGUST 23

REFS: (A) LUSAKA 2485 (NOTAL); (B) LAGOS 9517 (NOTAL);
(C) LONDON 13941 (NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY. WESTERN FIVE CONTACT GROUP MET PM AUGUST 23.
GROUP AGREED THAT SYG WALDHEIM'S OFFER, TO MEET WITH
CONTACT GROUP DURING HIS STAY IN NEW YORK FROM
AUGUST 30 TO SEPTEMBER 2, SHOULD BE ACCEPTED. GROUP
RECOMMENDED THAT WESTERN FIVE-SWAPO AGREED NON-PAPER
SHOULD NOT BE PASSED TO ZAMIBIAN PRESIDENT KAUNDA (REF A),
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BECAUSE OF WESTERN FIVE POLICY OF NOT PASSING PAPER BUT
RECOMMENDED THAT POLICY BE RE-EVALUATED IN NEAR FUTURE.
CONTACT GROUP FURTHER DISCUSSED U.S. BELIEF (REF C)
THAT WESTERN FIVE SHOULD MORE FORCEFULLY REITERATE TO THE
SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT ITS CONCERN OVER THE CONTINUING
EFFORTS OF THAT GOVERNMENT TO CREATE AN ETHNICALLY-
BASED ARMY IN NAMIBIA. WHILE SHARING U.S. CONCERN FOR

THIS MATTER, GROUP SUGGESTED THAT NO APPROACH TO SAG ON THIS SINGLE ISSUE BE PLANNED UNTIL WESTERN FIVE, FOLLOWING TALKS WITH SWAPO AND OTHERS AT LAGOS, HAVE CLEARER PICTURE OF HOW SOON ANOTHER WESTERN FIVE DEMARCHE WILL BE MADE TO SOUTH AFRICA ON OVERALL INITIATIVE IN NAMIBIA. END SUMMARY.

2. WESTERN FIVE CONTACT GROUP MET PM AUGUST 23 TO DISCUSS VARIETY OF ITEMS RELATING TO NAMIBIA. IN RESPONSE TO SYG WALDHEIM'S STATEMENT, MADE TO UKUN AMB MURRACY WHILE IN VIENNA, THAT HE WOULD BE AVAILABLE TO MEET WITH CONTACT GROUP IN NEW YORK FROM AUGUST 30 TO SEPTEMBER 2, FIVE AGREED THAT WALDHEIM'S OFFER SHOULD BE TAKEN UP AND WILL PROCEED TO SET UP APPOINTMENT FOR WESTERN FIVE AMBASSADORS DURING THAT PERIOD. CONTACT GROUP WILL MEET AM AUGUST 25 TO CREATE DRAFT TALKING POINTS FOR WALDHEIM MEETING.

3. WITH REGARD TO LUSAKA'S RECOMMENDATION (REF A) THAT COPY OF WESTERN FIVE-SWAPO AGREED NON-PAPER BE PASSED TO ZAMBIAN PRESIDENT KAUNDA, CONTACT GROUP FELT THAT SUCH AN ACTION SHOULD NOT REPEAT NOT BE TAKEN AT THIS TIME IN LIGHT OF OUR POLICY NOT TO PASS PAPER AND IN LIGHT OF EMPHASIS WE PLACED WITH SWAPO ON FACT THAT NON-PAPER IS ONLY FOR US OF PARTICIPANTS OF WESTERN FIVE-SWAPO TALKS. GROUP FELT THAT, IF ZAMBIAN GOVERNMENT AGAIN REQUEST NON-PAPER, MATTER SHOULD THEN BE GIVEN FURTHER CONSIDERATION. CONFIDENTIAL

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GROP ALSO BELIEVES THAT FACT THAT KAUNDA APPARENTLY DID NOT MAKE PITCH FOR PAPER IN MEETING WITH AMB YOUNG (REF B) MAY MEAN THAT REQUEST FOR PAPER IS NOW DORMANT ISSUE. HOWEVER, CONTACT GROUP FEELS THAT WESTERN FIVE MUST REEVLAUATE APPROPRIATENESS OF PRESENT POLICY OF NOT PASSING PAPER WITH VIEW TO MODIFYING IT IN FUTURE.

4. CONTACT GROUP FURTHER DISCUSSED U.S. BELIEF (REF C) THAT WESTERN FIVE SHOULD MORE FORCEFULLY REITERATE TO THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT ITS CONCERN OVER THE CONTINUING EFFORTS OF THAT GOVERNMENT TO CREATE AN ETHNICALLY-BASED ARMY IN NAMIBIA. CONTACT GROUP ALSO CONSIDERED SUGGESTION THAT SUPPLEMENTARY FIVE-POWER DEMARCHE MIGHT BE MADE TO SAG NEXT WEEK ON THIS SOLE POINT. GROP FELT, HOWEVER, THAT SO MANY DEMARCHES HAVE BEEN MADE TO SAG ON NAMIBIA AND OTHR MATTERS IN RECENT WEEKS THAT AN ADDITIONAL ONE MIGHT BE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE. WHILE SHARING U.S. CONCERN FOR THIS MATTER, GROUP SUGGESTED THAT NO APPROACH TO SAG ON THIS SINGLE ISSUE BE PLANNED UNTIL WESTERN FIVE, FOLLOWING TALKS WITH SWAPO AND OTHERS AT LAGOS, HAVE CLEARER PICTURE OF HOW SOON ANOTHER WESTERN FIVE DEMARCHE WILL BE MADE TO SOUTH AFRICA ON

OVERALL INITIATIVE IN NAMIBIA. SINCE SUCH A DEMARCHE WILL PROBABLY OCCUR WITHIN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS, FIVE'S CONCERN OVER THE SAG'S CREATION OF ETHNICALLY-BASED ARMIES IN NAMIBIA COULD BE STRESSED THEN.

5. FOR DEPARTMENT: CONTACT GROUP IS REQUESTING VIEWS OF CAPITALS ON THIS MATTER AND WILL CONSIDER THOSE VIEWS AT THE CONTACT GROUP MEETING AM AUGUST 25. WOUWD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S VIEWS SOONEST.
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